

# Press Release

## HARFORD COUNTY GOVERNMENT

### Department of Community Services



#### PUBLIC SAFETY

"Ensuring a Safe  
Harford"

#### EDUCATION

"Preparing Now,  
Building for the Future"

#### EFFICIENCY IN GOVERNMENT

"Governing Smarter"

#### ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY

"Growing and Sustaining  
Harford's Prosperity"

#### ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP

"Protecting Our  
Environment"

#### QUALITY LIVING

"Safeguarding What is  
Important to Harford  
County Citizens"

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: January 11, 2013

Media Contact: Elizabeth S. Hendrix, Director – 410-638-3389

### Harford County Teen Court Training for Youth and Adult Volunteers

*Court provides a second chance to youth; teens needed to serve as jury*

The Harford County Teen Court was piloted in the spring of 2011 as a diversion program that provides first time, non-violent youth offenders with a second chance. Offenders agree to participate in the Teen Court program, and if successful, avoid becoming involved in the juvenile justice system.

The Teen Court is a partnership with the Harford County Department of Community Services Local Management Board, Office of Drug Control Policy, Department of Juvenile Services, State's Attorney Office, Sheriff's Office, and Harford County Public Schools. The Harford County Teen Court program follows a restorative justice model in which it is determined what is best for the respondent, the victim, and the community at large.

Harford County District Court Judge Susan Hazlett presides over the court and the jury is comprised of high school students from around the county. For the teen jurors, this is a volunteer experience and a chance to see firsthand how the criminal justice system works. With the help of adult volunteers, the jury develops a finding for the offending youth, such as writing an apology letter, performing community service hours, attending educational programs or serving on the teen jury in the future.

Teen Court Training for youth and adult volunteers is scheduled for Thursday, February 5, 2013, 4:30-7:30 p.m., at the Harford County District Court, 2 South Bond Street in Bel Air.

To register for the Teen Court Training session on February 5, or to learn more about serving as a volunteer juror or court clerk, please contact the Office of Drug Control Policy at 410-638-3333 or [teencourt@harfordcountymd.gov](mailto:teencourt@harfordcountymd.gov).

- 30 -

"Preserving Harford's past; promoting Harford's future"